

University of Texas at Tyler

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### Intercom 1997 March 31

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## Author Ernest Gaines to Speak April 8

Award-winning author Ernest Gaines will speak Tuesday, April 8 in Robert R. Muntz Library, room 401. The free lecture, sponsored by the UT Tyler School of Liberal Arts and Texas College, begins at 7:30 p.m.

An informal question and answer session is scheduled at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 in BUS 210.

Gaines is the author of eight novels, including *The Autobiography of Miss Jane*

*Pittman*, *In My Father's House*, and *A Gathering of Old Men*. His most recent work, *A Lesson Before Dying*, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and received the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Southern Writer's Conference Award, and the Langston Hughes Award.



AUTHOR ERNEST GAINES

A native of Louisiana, Gaines holds the title of Writer in Residence at the University of Southwestern Louisiana and is recipient of the highly esteemed John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship for his lifetime achievements.

He was recently named a Chevalier in the French Order of Arts and Letters, one of the most distinguished awards in the arts. In 1996 he taught at the University of Rennes, France, the first creative writing class offered in the French university system.

He attended San Francisco State University and Stanford University, and holds honorary doctorates from several institutions including Tulane University, Loyola

University, Brown University, University of the South, and Louisiana State University.

For more information call Dr. Robert Myers, assistant professor of English, ext. 7460.



## in the spotlight . . .

**Dr. Bill Bruce**, professor of education and Department of Curriculum and Instruction chair, is serving on the Editorial Review Board of *Education Issues: The Journal of the University of South Carolina at Spartanburg, School of Education*. He also serves on the Site Based Management Committee for Kissam Intermediate School in the Chapel Hill Independent School District.

**Dr. John Fabac**, associate professor of technology, was interviewed March 14 by KETK-56 about teaching courses on-line via the Internet.

**Dr. Wallin McCardell**, associate professor of journalism and Department of Theatre and Communication chair, was recertified as an accredited member of Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). He also attended a conference, "Freedom and Responsibility in a New Media Age," sponsored by the Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility Feb. 18 at Southern Methodist University.

**Dr. Jack Rogers**, assistant professor of speech communication, has had an article, "A Community of Unequals: An Analysis of Dominant and Subdominant Culturally Linked Perceptions of Participation and Success within Intercollegiate Competitive Debate," accepted for publication in the 1996-97 annual *Contemporary Argumentation and Debate*, the journal of the Cross Examination Debate Association. Also, he will present a paper at the National Pi Kappa Delta Development Conference, "The Demagogue of Dichotomy: Tradition vs. Competitiveness," hosted by Northern Kentucky University.

**Dr. Andrew Szarka**, associate professor of history, has been elected to a two-year term as a member at large of the Japan Studies Association Executive Board. Also, he presented a paper, "A Texan at the Meiji Court: Richard Bennet Hubbard's Embassy to Japan, 1885-1889," at the third annual conference of the Japan Studies Association March 6-9 in San Antonio. Hubbard, a Tyler resident from 1853 until his death in 1901, was a member of the Texas Legislature, Lieutenant Governor and Governor of Texas before going to Japan.

## Academy honors faculty, student

Four faculty members and a graduate student of UT Tyler earned recognition from the Texas Academy of Sciences (TAS) at the organization's centennial meeting.

**Dr. Ron King**, professor and Department of Computer Science chair, was elected president of the academy for 1997-98. King, who has served as president-elect and vice president, will preside during the academy's 1998 meeting which will be held on the UT Tyler campus.

**Dr. Neil Ford**, professor of biology, was named a TAS fellow in recognition of outstanding contributions to science and the academy. He was honored with a commemorative certificate and a plaque of appreciation for his three-year term on the TAS board as academic director.

**Dr. Stephen Rainwater**, associate professor of computer science, was named vice chair of the math section. **Charles Cavanaugh**, a graduate student in computer science, won the 3rd place award in the best graduate paper competition for his presentation, "Fuzzy-Neural Models for Classification." **Dr. Arun Kulkarni**, associate professor of computer science, is the paper's coauthor.





**SCIENCE HONORS** — Dr. Ron King, professor and Department of Computer Science chair (left), and Dr. Neil Ford, professor of biology, were recognized at the Texas Academy of Sciences (TAS) centennial meeting. King is the newly-elected president of TAS for 1997-98 and Ford was named a TAS fellow. (Photo by Michael Murray)

## Mahoney awarded Kellogg Fellowship

Dr. Debra Mahoney, assistant professor of nursing, has been awarded a W. K. Kellogg Fellowship for Nurse Educators. Mahoney is one of eight nursing professionals selected to begin postdoctoral study as Kellogg Fellows in 1997 by the Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing, an affiliate of the Southern Regional Education Board.

Mahoney, a member of the UT Tyler faculty since 1990, serves as graduate coordinator for the Division of Nursing and was the university's nominee for the 1993 Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation Award for outstanding teaching. She teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in nursing and has developed courses in women's health and perioperative nursing. She has been a member of the Faculty Senate and has served on numerous university committees.

Mahoney's professional memberships include Sigma Theta Tau international honor society in nursing and the American Nurses Association. She has presented her research on women's health issues at national and international conferences. She holds a Ph.D. in nursing from Texas Woman's University and master's and bachelor's degrees in nursing from UT Austin.

Mahoney's fellowship will include postdoctoral study at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. and family nurse practitioner clinical experiences in health care for newborns through geriatrics.

The fellowships are supported by a \$1.1 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to increase the number of family nurse practitioner faculty in the region. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation was established in 1930 to help people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations.



## Snapshot



**ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS** — The Trane Company announces the creation of the Trane Company Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Scholarship Program in partnership with Tyler Junior College and UT Tyler. The program was established to create eight scholarships for students who enroll at TJC and who plan to complete degrees in mechanical or electrical engineering at UT Tyler. Shown, left to right, are: Gene Branum, TJC director of physical sciences/engineering; Dr. Leonard Hale, UT Tyler assistant vice president for engineering programs; Rob Neal, Trane vice president and general manager, Tyler operations; and Bruce Schiller, Trane vice president and general manager, compressor operations.

(Photo by Michael Murray)

## PERSONNEL UPDATE

### NEW EMPLOYEES

#### **Nora Vassar**

Library Assistant I, Library Services  
LIB 210, ext. 7342  
Effective 3/3/97

#### **David Hamblin**

Laboratory Technician II  
School of Sciences and Mathematics  
SCI 134, ext. 5531  
Effective 3/10/97

#### **Maria Alvarado**

Secretary I, Office of Field Experiences  
and Student Teaching  
UC 246, ext. 7283  
Effective 3/17/97

#### **Phil Smith**

Accountant I, Financial Services  
ADM 118, ext. 7452  
Effective 3/17/97